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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,914	10/13/2004	Yiou-Wen CHENG	PCLP0002USA	5913
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NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION P.O. BOX 506 MERRIFIELD, VA 22116			EXAMINER CHOWDHURY, NIGAR	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2621	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			07/24/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/711,914	Applicant(s) CHENG ET AL.	
	Examiner NIGAR CHOWDHURY	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 11-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 October 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 11-12, 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 20050025454 by Nakamura et al. in view of GB 2387710A by Arredondo et al.

2. Regarding **claim 1**, Nakamura discloses a method for implementing an adaptive mixing energy ratio in an image-editing environment, comprising the following steps:

- applying at least one analysis technique to a session of video stored in a computer readable media for performing an analysis (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128);
- determining a mixing energy ratio for each of the plurality of segments according to the analysis (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128)
- interpolating the mixing energy ratio for each of the plurality of segments to produce a mixing energy ratio profile (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128)

- applying the mixing energy ratio profile to the session of video (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128).

Nakamura fails to disclose demarcating the session of video footage into a plurality of segments

Arredondo discloses demarcating the session of video footage into a plurality of segments (see abstract, page 4 lines 18-page 6 lines 12)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the proposed combination of Nakamura's system to include a demarcating, as taught by Arredondo, of video footage into plurality of segments for easy editing purpose.

3. Regarding **claim 2**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step comprises applying at least an audio analysis technique to a session of video footage (Arredondo, see abstract) stored in a computer readable media for performing an analysis (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128).

4. Regarding **claim 3**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step comprises applying at least a video analysis technique to a session of video footage (Arredondo, see abstract) stored in a computer readable media for performing an analysis (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128).

5. Regarding **claim 4**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step comprises applying a plurality of analysis techniques to a session of video footage (Arredondo, see abstract) stored in a computer readable media for performing an analysis, the techniques being audio analysis techniques, video analysis techniques, or a combination of audio and video analysis techniques (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128).

6. Regarding **claim 6**, Arredondo discloses the method wherein step comprises demarcating the session of video footage into a plurality of segments based on contents of the footage (see abstract, page 4 lines 18-page 6 lines 21).

7. Regarding **claim 7**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein the analysis returns predetermined parameters corresponding to properties of the footage for each of the plurality of segments (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128).

8. Regarding **claim 8**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step (a) further comprises analyzing the footage with respect to predefined auditory patterns and non-predefined auditory patterns (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128).

9. Regarding **claim 11**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step further comprises analyzing the footage with respect to predefined video patterns and non-predefined video patterns (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128).

10. Regarding **claim 12**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein the mixing energy ratio is a ratio of an audio energy of a first soundtrack to an audio energy of a second soundtrack (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0114-0128).

11. Regarding **claim 15**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein the first soundtrack and the second soundtrack each comprise a plurality of channels (paragraph 0107).

12. Regarding **claim 16**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step comprises determining an average mixing energy ratio point for each of the plurality of segments (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0114-0128).

13. Regarding **claim 17**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step comprises determining a plurality of mixing energy ratio points for each of the plurality of segments (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0114-0128).

14. Regarding **claim 18**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step comprises applying an adaptive mixing energy ratio to segments of special interest and applying an average mixing energy ratio to remaining segments of the session of video footage (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0114-0128).

15. Regarding **claim 19**, Nakamura discloses the method wherein step comprises interpolating the mixing energy ratio for each of the plurality of segments to produce a mixing energy ratio profile, the maximum gradient of the mixing energy ratio profile being limited according to a predefined limit (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0114-0128).

16. Claims 5, 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 20050025454 by Nakamura et al. and GB 2387710A by Arredondo et al.

17. Regarding **claim 5**, Nakamura discloses analysis technique (fig. 1-12, paragraph 0035-0044, paragraph 0056-0073, 0117-0128), Arredondo discloses the method wherein step comprises demarcating the session of video footage into a plurality of segments (see abstract, page 4 lines 18-page 6 lines 21) but both fails to teach demarcating of video based on predetermined run-time lengths.

It is noted that the use of demarcating of video based on predetermined run-time lengths is old and well-known in the recording art. Therefore, official notice is taken. Moreover, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to have a well-known demarcating of video based on predetermined run-time lengths for a user to have more flexibility to do edition of video.

18. Regarding **claim 13**, Nakamura discloses different soundtrack, Arredondo discloses demarcating of session but both fail to disclose the method wherein the first soundtrack is a speech soundtrack or a music soundtrack.

It is noted that the use speech soundtrack or music soundtrack is old and well-known in the recording art. Therefore, official notice is taken. Moreover, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a well-known speech soundtrack or music soundtrack for user to use different soundtrack in editing system

19. **Claim 14** is rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding claim 13 above.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NIGAR CHOWDHURY whose telephone number is (571)272-8890. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM - 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NC
07/20/08

/Thai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621